

Application No.: 10/531,817
Amendment Dated: December 3, 2009
Reply to Office Action of: September 3, 2009

MTS-3550US

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 17-21 are pending and rejected in the application. Claims 17, 19 and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

On page 2, the Official Action rejects claims 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tadayuki (JP 8-329469). It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims are patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 17, includes features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

said drive device has:

a volatile buffer memory ...

said control device has:

a memory ...

transmitting unit transmits the information for adjustment processing recorded in said memory to said drive device,

said acquiring unit acquires the information for adjustment processing transmitted from said control device, and

said buffer recording unit records the acquired information for adjustment processing as a second adjustment information in said volatile buffer memory, and

wherein, even when the supply of power to said drive device is suspended, information recorded in said memory is maintained ... (Emphasis Added)

Claim 17 relates to a drive device which has a volatile buffer memory and a control device which has an non-volatile memory (two different devices having two different memories). Specifically, when power to the drive device is resumed after a suspension, the control device transmits the adjustment information from its non-volatile memory to the drive device. The drive device then records the information for adjustment processing in the volatile buffer memory. Thus, when a suspension of

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power erases the volatile buffer memory in the drive device, the control device (which has non-volatile memory) is able to restore the information. Support for this feature can be found on at least pages 19, 25 and 26 of the originally filed application and is also shown in Figs. 2 and 5. No new matter has been added.

On page 3, line 2, the Official Action states that Tadayuki's memory 47 is the "memory" of the control device recited in Applicants' claim 17. On page 3, line 10, however, the Official Action also states that Tadayuki's memory 47 is the same as the "volatile buffer memory" of the drive device which is also recited in claim 1. Thus, the Official Action is interpreting Tadayuki's memory 47 as both the volatile buffer memory in the drive device and the memory in the control device. Thus, Applicants respectfully disagree with the interpretation of Tadayuki's memory 47. Tadayuki's memory 47 is not two different memories in two different devices as recited in Applicants' claim 17 (47 is a single memory device).

Furthermore, on page 4, the Official Action cites paragraphs 81-84 and 104-108 of Tadayuki as teaching the acquisition of information after supply of power to the device is suspended. Thus, Tadayuki's memory 47 obtains parameter information from a disk which is inserted into the device (*"volatile memory, for example, SRAM as memory 47, by the time of performing on/off operation of the power supply of a data recorder ... the recording parameter of an optical disk which performed data recording in this data recorder can be memorized"*). Accordingly, Tadayuki's memory 47 acquires parameter information from an optical disk which is inserted into the drive device (Tadayuki does not teach a drive device having a volatile memory and a control device having a different memory).

Applicants' claim 17 is different than the art of record because two different devices (drive device 110 and control device 100) have two different memories respectively (volatile buffer memory 112 and memory 102). Furthermore, claim 17 is different than the art of record because the control device transmits the parameter information to the drive device where it is then stored in the volatile buffer memory (if the volatile buffer memory is erased due to powering down the drive device, the control device can then update the volatile memory). These features are at least recited in claim 17. (*"said drive device has: a volatile buffer memory ... said control device has: a memory ... transmitting unit transmits the information for adjustment*

processing recorded in said memory to said drive device, said acquiring unit acquires the information for adjustment processing transmitted from said control device, and said buffer recording unit records the acquired information for adjustment processing as a second adjustment information in said volatile buffer memory, and wherein, even when the supply of power to said drive device is suspended, information recorded in said memory is maintained").

As shown in Applicants' Fig. 2, drive device 110 includes volatile buffer memory 112. Furthermore, control device 100 includes non-volatile memory 102. When power is suspended to drive device 110, the volatile buffer memory 112 is erased. The non-volatile memory 102 of the control device, however, is not erased. When the supply of power is resumed to the drive device 110, the erased volatile buffer memory 112 may be updated. To perform the update, control device 100 transmits the parameter information stored in non-volatile memory 102 to drive device 110. Upon acquiring the parameter information, drive device 110 stores the parameter information in volatile buffer memory 112. This feature is at least supported on page 19, lines 1-15 and page 25, line 10 to page 26, line 10 of the specification. ("*drive controller 123 transmits the recording and replaying conditions 222 described in the ID list 212 to the optical disk drive 110, and the optical disk drive 110 sets the received recording and replaying conditions 222 in the recording and replaying condition storage buffer 112 ... further, while supply of power to the optical disk drive 110 is suspended ... to save electrical power ... supply of electric power to disk information storage buffer 102 is not stopped unless supply of power to the optical disk recorder 100 itself is stopped, and the stored recording and replaying conditions are maintained even in the standby state*").

Thus, since Tadayuki does not suggest a memory in a control device and a volatile memory in a drive device which exchange parameter information (when power is resumed after a suspension), claim 17 is patentable over the art of record.

Claim 19 has similar features to claim 17. Thus, claim 19 is also patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth above.

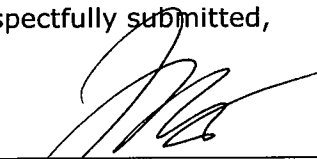
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Dependent claims 18, 20 and 21 include all of the features of the claims from which they depend. Thus, these claims are also patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 17 and 19.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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